



THE

RecyCool PLANET

The Official RecyCool Club Publication

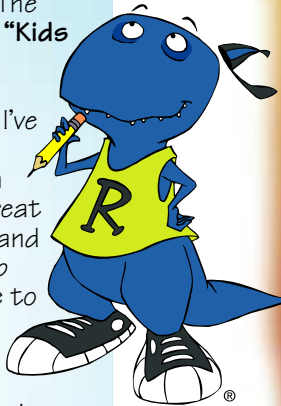
Spring Edition

*Happy springtime
to all my fellow RecyCool
Club friends!*

Spring is my favorite season of all because the weather is turning warm and all the flowers and trees are blooming. It's also time to celebrate a very special day - **EARTH DAY on April 22!**

I look forward to meeting a lot of awesome recycling pals at many of the Earth Day and other springtime events throughout California. Check out my web site periodically to find out which events I will be at. The address is www.conservation.ca.gov. Go to the "Kids Only" section and look for "Where will Rex be?"

So many wonderful things have been happening! I've been visiting schools throughout our beautiful State playing the Close the Loop Quiz Show with some of you. I was able to visit schools in the great counties of El Dorado, Yolo, Sacramento, Tulare, and Mariposa! If you'd like me and the Close the Loop Quiz Show to come to your school, or, if you'd like to start a recycling program at your school, have a grown-up call me at 1-800-RECYCLE!



Did you know that you can receive **4¢** for your single serve (under 24 ounces) glass, plastic and aluminum beverage containers and **8¢** for beverage containers 24 ounces or more? If you see the words "California Cash Refund" or "California Redemption Value" on any of your beverage containers, you can turn those beverage containers in at your nearest recycling center for **\$money\$!**

This issue also focuses on aluminum beverage container recycling. You will learn how aluminum cans are recycled into new cans. Did you know that the aluminum soda can you drank out of could be recycled into a new can, filled and be back on your grocer's shelf in as little as 90 days? You will also learn about the kinds of products that can be made from recycled aluminum.

Wishing all of you lots of fun and adventures this season. I hope you and your family and friends will help me make a difference by recycling, reducing, reusing and closing the loop. Let's make everyday Earth Day!

RecyCool Project



Items you will need:

- Plastic soda or water bottle with cap
- Scissors (ask a grown up for help!)
- Handful of small rocks
- Potting soil
- Plant seed
- Tape
- Water

Mini-Greenhouse

- Cut a clear plastic soda or water bottle in half (ask for help from an adult)
- Put a handful of small rocks (for drainage) in the bottom of the bottle. Put the potting soil over the rocks until the bottom half of the bottle is almost full
- Plant the seed about 1 inch deep and add water (just enough to get the soil completely wet- you'll probably never have to water it again!)
- Reattach the top half of the bottle (with the cap on) using tape
- Keep in a bright, warm place (but not a window sill-too hot!) and wait for the seeds to germinate
- When the seedlings are tall enough, transplant to a larger pot or in your garden

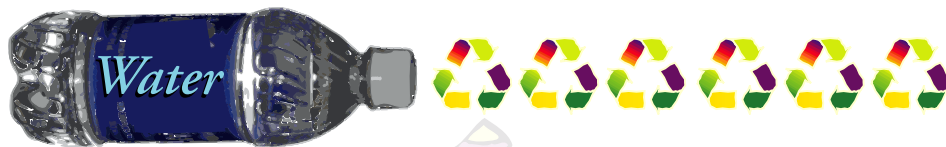




Want to help save the Earth and make some money all at the same time? How about starting a recycling program at home, in your neighborhood, or even at school? Recycling saves precious natural resources!

Did you know that you can receive **4¢ for your single serve (under 24 ounces)** glass, plastic and aluminum beverage containers and **8¢ for beverage containers 24 ounces or more?** If you see the words "California Cash Refund" or "California Redemption Value" on any of your beverage containers, you can turn those beverage containers in at your nearest recycling center for \$money\$!

Geez... if you collected just 50 soda cans or water bottles (any beverage container marked California Cash Refund or California Redemption Value) you can take those containers to a recycling center and get \$2.00! Wow! If you aren't quite sure where your nearest recycling center is you can find out, by logging on to www.bottlesandcans.com. All you need to know is your zip code! Or, call 1-800-RECYCLE! Thanks for help saving our Earth!



Reduce and Reuse

Hey kids, in addition to recycling, reducing and reusing are equally important! Do you know what reducing means? Reducing means finding ways to make less garbage (like using a lunch box instead of a paper bag). When you go to the store try to buy stuff that has less packaging. Then you don't have to worry about what to do with all of that extra packaging which just makes more garbage. Also, try and see if any of that extra packaging can be recycled. Try and think of 3 ways you can reduce at home or school. Write your ideas down on a piece of paper and put it somewhere to remind you (like on your refrigerator).

Reusing is another recycool way to help save the planet. You can reuse your plastic soda and water bottles before you recycle them. For instance, summer is right around the corner. You'll probably spend a lot of time playing outside in the hot, summer sun! This means you will need to drink lots of water. Instead of tossing your empty water bottles into the recycling bin, they can be reused by refilling them. In fact, an extra recycool idea is to fill them halfway with water then freeze them. When you get thirsty simply go to the freezer and pull out your half-full frozen water bottle and fill it up with your favorite drink. Presto! You have a super-cold yummy treat!! You can even substitute an ice pack with one of these frozen treats in your lunchbox. It will help to keep your lunch nice and cool too! So, Recycle Rex wants you to remember to recycle, reduce and reuse where you live, learn and play!!!



Did you know???



An aluminum beverage can returns to the grocer's shelf as a new, filled can in as little as 90 days after it is recycled. That means you could buy the same recycled aluminum can from a grocer's shelf every 13 weeks, or 4 times a year!

A paper grocery sack holds about 1.5 pounds of empty aluminum cans. When you have a couple of full grocery sacks, you can take them to a recycling center to get money or put them in your curbside-recycling bin!

When an aluminum can is recycled, it conserves 95% of the energy needed to make a brand new aluminum can from bauxite ore (The mineral used to make aluminum)!





How Aluminum is Recycled



- 1** You can take your aluminum soda cans to a recycling center or leave them in recycling bins at your curb (if you have curbside service).

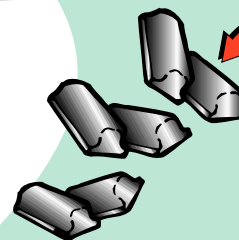


- 2** The aluminum cans are transported to a processing facility where they are washed, shredded, and melted.



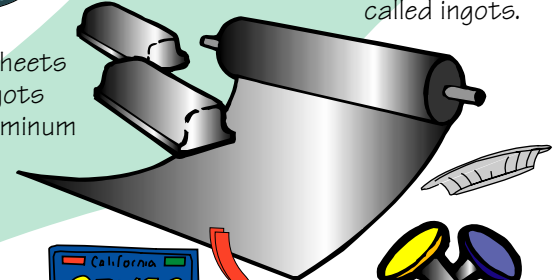
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The liquid aluminum is poured into molds that make them into blocks, called ingots.



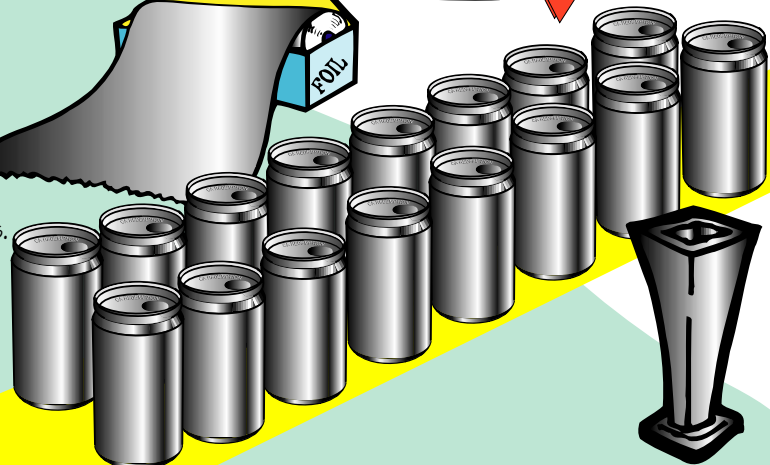
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The ingots are taken to a can-making factory and melted into rolls of flat sheets of aluminum (similar to thick foil). Ingots are also sold to manufacturers of aluminum products who melt them down for molding into new products.



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The sheets of aluminum are cut and shaped into aluminum cans, inspected and shipped to companies to make drinks.



Aluminum is usually recycled into another aluminum can, or aluminum foil, pie plates, frozen food trays, greenhouses, wheelchairs, flagpoles, bridges and even car bodies!



State of California
THE RESOURCES AGENCY
Department of Conservation
Division of Recycling
801 K Street, MS 17-01
Sacramento, CA 95814

What does it mean?

Match these words with their meanings below
(Hint: some of the answers are found
in this newsletter, too!)

- Bauxite • Close the loop • Energy • Money • Recycling
- Reduce • Reuse

A) To use a material again for its original or some other purpose:

B) Take a used soda can and turn it into a new pie tin:

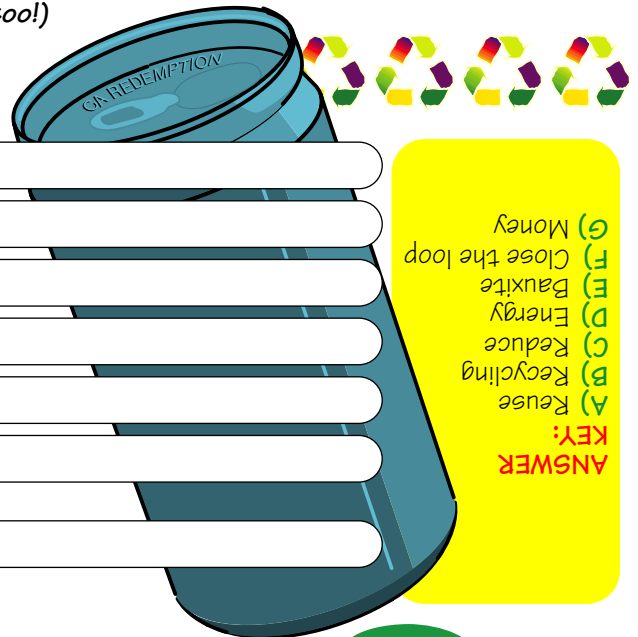
C) To make less garbage:

D) Recycling aluminum conserves this:

E) This is the raw material aluminum is made from:

F) You do this when you buy items made from recycled material:

G) You get this when you redeem your aluminum,
glass and plastic bottles at your Recycling Center:



ANSWER KEY:
A) Reuse
B) Recycling
C) Reduce
D) Energy
E) Bauxite
F) Close the loop
G) Money



Where's Rex??



Earth Day is right around the corner and Recycle Rex is going to be a bunch of places to help celebrate! Take a look and see if he is going to be in your neighborhood...

*Congratulations to
all the RecyCool Club
Graduates!*

If this is the fourth newsletter you've received from me, you've officially graduated from my RecyCool Club! You can continue to learn about recycling, reducing, reusing and closing the loop on my website: www.conservation.ca.gov look for the "Kids Only" section. Please remember to recycle where you live learn and play!

• Saturday/April 17th	10:00-6:00	Modesto/Graceada Park
• Sunday/April 18th	11:00-4:00	Springville/SCICON Campus
• Sunday/April 18th	11:00-5:00	Stockton/Victory Park
• Saturday/April 24th	11:00-5:00	Sacramento/CSUS
• Saturday/April 24th	10:00-4:00	Tulare Co. Children's Museum/Visalia
• April 30th-May 2	9:00-3:00	Orange County Youth Expo
• Saturday/May 1st	10:00-2:00	State Capitol Building-East Steps
• Friday/May 7th	10:00-3:00	Sacramento County Fair/Cal Expo
• Saturday/May 22nd	10:00-2:00	Sacramento/Meadowview Comm. Ctr.